

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following communication is in response to Applicant's amendment filed 10 April 2008 and Supplemental Amendment filed 29 April 2008.

Status of Claims

2. Claim 1 is currently amended. Claims 1-5, 19 and 20 are currently pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (hereinafter Chen) U.S. Patent 6,873,957 in view of Geoghegan et al. (hereinafter Geoghegan) U.S. Patent 7,328,166 in further view of Pugliese, III et al. (hereinafter Pugliese) U.S. Publication 2001/0016825.

Regarding independent claim 1, Chen teaches a method for establishing a reservation for a service or product comprising:

Art Unit: 3693

providing three or more clone reservation sites to a primary reservation management site, each clone reservation site having a user interface tailored based on the user (column 3, line 59-67 and column 4, line 18-40 and column 4, lines 56-62 and Figure 3) and

responsive to a booking party attempting to book a reservation on said primary reservation management system, redirecting said booking party to one of said clone reservation sites to match said booking party to a tailored user interface according to the user (column 3, line 59-67 and column 4, line 18-40 and column 4, lines 56-62 and Figure 3 and column 5, lines 5-12 and Figure 5).

Chen teaches that the cloned sites include: availability of low fare ticket search; selection of database; desired security levels, availability of quick search and links to tables that include: travel policies for the specific user, discounts available, preferred hotels, car rentals and instant ticketing commissions (column 3, lines 5-67 and column 5, lines 30-40).

Chen fails to specifically teach that the users are classes of users such as customers, agents, and wholesalers and periodically synchronizing clone inventory database with an inventory of a reservation management system, collecting a reservation data set from said booking party including itinerary and preferences for a customer and establishing a reservation in said management system according to said reservation data set if a matching service or product is available, said reservation being associated with a customer profile.

Geoghegan teaches a global reservation transaction management system (GRTMS) that provides single, real-time image of a property's inventory accessible by all booking sources (column 3, lines 65 thru column 4, line 3). Geoghegan can carry information about hotel reservations to classes of consumers like guests, agents, voice agents, etc. (column 4, lines 57-

Art Unit: 3693

65). Geoghegan further teaches the ability to transparently synchronize all databases in a federation, thereby providing one view of inventory, and thereby enabling meaningful yield management (column 5, lines 41-50). Geoghegan further teaches collecting a reservation data set from said booking party including itinerary and preferences for a customer and establishing a reservation in said management system according to said reservation data set if a matching service or product is available, said reservation being associated with a customer profile (column 8, line 46 thru column 11, line 10 and column 13, lines 10-67).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Chen to include the teachings of Geoghegan because it provides for updated inventories to the different classes of customers using the reservation management system thus allow for better management of reservations by providing each class with an up to date view of inventories.

Chen further teaches that the clone sites can determine instant ticketing commissions (column 3, lines 59-67). Geoghegan teaches providing revenue to the booking party (column 12, lines 11-13 and column 7, lines 5-27). Chen and Geoghegan fail to teach recording the revenue in a revenue pool. Pugliese teaches an electronic ticketing and reservation method that stores the fee accorded to the travel agent (paragraph 0040). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Chen in view of Geoghegan to include the teachings of Pugliese because it provides for tracking and recording the commissions or revenues for a class of users.

Art Unit: 3693

Schiff teaches the use of web-pages for both agents and customers can book using the reservation system. Furthermore, Schiff teaches recording revenue in a revenue pool for a booking party (paragraphs 0016, 0168 and 0217). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the Applicant's invention to modify the commission teachings of Mankes to include the revenue pool teachings of Schiff because it provides for tracking the various commissions and fees paid out to different entities associated with making bookings/reservations.

Claim 2, Chen teaches wherein said step of directing a booking party to a clone reservation system according to a booking party type comprises a redirecting from a primary Universal Resource Locator to a clone Universal Resource Locator (column 4, lines 40-55).

Claims 3 and 4, Chen teaches that the user is a registered user (column 5, lines 5-12). Geoghegan also teaches the use of customer and user profiles and profile databases and the ability to modify profiles (column 6, lines 60-67 and column 9, lines 21-29).

Regarding claims 5, Chen teaches that the cloned site include: availability of low fare ticket search; selection of database; desired security levels, availability of quick search and links to tables that include: travel policies for the specific user, discounts available, preferred hotels, car rentals and instant ticketing commissions (column 3, lines 5-67 and column 5, lines 30-40). Geoghegan teaches wherein the step of establishing and associating said reservation with a customer profile comprises a step selected from the group of establishing a hotel reservation,

Art Unit: 3693

reserving a travel ticket, booking a rental car, reserving a golf tee time, reserving an entertainment ticket, and reserving products due for future availability (column 8, line 46 thru column 11, line 10 and column 13, lines 10-67).

5. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (hereinafter Chen) U.S. Patent 6,873,957 in view of Geoghegan et al. (hereinafter Geoghegan) U.S. Patent 7,328,166 in further view of Pugliese, III et al. (hereinafter Pugliese) U.S. Publication 2001/0016825 in further view of Devarajan et al. (hereinafter Devarajan) U.S. Patent 7,167,904.

Claims 19 and 20, Claim 19, Chen teaches wherein said redirecting of said booking party comprises a redirecting from a URL address to a clone URL address (column 4, lines 40-55). Chen in view of Geoghegan in view of Pugliese fails to teach that the redirection is done from a primary domain to a clone subdomain. Devarajan teaches redirecting based on domain and subdomain as well as web address (column 3, lines 10 thru column 4, line 40). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Chen in view of Geoghegan in view of Pugliese to include the teachings of Devarajan because it provides for incorporating customer specific information when making a reservation.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 19 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEFANOS KARMIS whose telephone number is (571)272-6744. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8-5.

Art Unit: 3693

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Kramer can be reached on (571) 272-6783. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Respectfully Submitted
/Stefanos Karmis/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3693
20 July 2007